

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 8-20 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1, 14 and 16; and cancels Claims 5-6.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 1-4, 8-13, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Rowe (U.S. Patent No. 2,514,798). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rowe in view of Koch (U.S. Patent No. 6,113,183).

Claims 6 and 14-16 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, allowable Claim 6 is rewritten in independent form as amended Claim 1 (with intervening Claim 5). Thus, Claims 5-6 are cancelled. Further, allowable Claims 14 and 16 are each rewritten in independent form.

In response to the rejections of the claims, in view of the present Amendment, the rejections are now moot.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-4 and 8-20 is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/573,475
Reply to Office Action of August 25, 2008

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Philippe J.C. Signore, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 43,922

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)